

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

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R 081857Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9325

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

USUN NEW YORK 1044

UNCLAS MEXICO 7053

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PORG UN OAS CS

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO'S PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE OAS,  
SELA AND HEMISPHERE POLITICS

1. COSTA RICAN FORMIN GONZALO FACIO SEGREDÁ GAVE HIS VIEWS ON THE OAS ON HIS ARRIVAL IN MEXICO AUGUST 6: "THE OAS IS NOT A PANACEA FOR THE PROBLEMS OF LATIN AMERICA, BUT IF IT REFORMS ITSELF, IT WILL BE ABLE TO CONVERT ITSELF INTO A FORUM FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AS EQUALS." ADMITTING THAT JURIDICAL EQUALITY AND EQUALITY IN IMPORTANCE AMONG STATES ARE TWO DIFFERENT MATTERS AND THAT THE LATTER IS NOT ATTAINABLE, FACIO WENT ON TO ASSERT THAT "IF THE NATIONS OF LATIN AMERICA COORDINATE THEIR ECONOMIC POLICIES THROUGH SELA WHICH WE HAVE JUST FOUNDED, THEN WE WILL BE ABLE TO ACT WITH ONE VOICE IN THE OAS, WHICH WOULD, IN THIS CASE, BE AS POWERFUL AS THAT OF THE UNITED STATES."

2. IN RESPONSE TO A MEXICAN REPORTER'S QUESTION ABOUT WHETHER LATIN GOVERNMENTS IMPOSED BY OUTSIDE INTERVENTION (OBVIOUSLY CHILE) SHOULD BE ALLOWED IN SELA, FACIO REPLIED, "IF WE START DISCRIMINATING ON THE BASIS OF THE LEGITIMACY  
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OF GOVERNMENTS, FEW OF US WOULD REMAIN IN THE LATIN AMERICAN

CONCERT." CONSEQUENTLY, HE URGED THAT "SELA MUST NOT FALL INTO THE SIN OF IDEOLOGICAL DISCRIMINATION, BECAUSE THEN WE WILL NOT ACHIEVE A SUPERIOR GOAL, WHICH IS THE UNIFICATION OF LATIN AMERICA."

3. ASKED IF THERE IS A BREACH BETWEEN THE US AND LATIN AMERICA AS HAS BEEN CLAIMED BY VARIOUS STATESMENT OF THE REGION, FACIO REPLIED, "NO, THE SPIRIT OF TLATELOLCO, WHICH U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER ANNOUNCED IN MEXICO, SHOULD PREVAIL IN A NEW U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD US." (I.E., LATIN AMERICA).

4. FINALLY, FACIO DECLARED, "IF ECHEVERRIA IS PROPOSED FOR SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, HENCEFORTH HE CAN COUNT ON COSTA RICA'S VOTE." MOREOVER, HE SAID HE BELIEVED THAT ECHEVERRIA'S CANDIDACY WOULD SUCCEED AND THAT IT WOULD NOT BE VETOED BY ONE OF THE GREAT POWER MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL BECAUSSE HE THOUGHT "IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR ANY COUNTRY, INCLUDING ONE OF THE DEVELOPED ONES, TO VETO THE NOMINATION OF THE MEXICAN LEADER."  
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